

Testimony for Public Hearing on **S.B. 946 AN ACT CONCERNING REVENUE ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET**

Emily Freund
Farm Manager at Jones Family Farms in Shelton, CT

March 9, 2015

Dear Members of the Finance, Revenue, and Bond Committee,

I am writing to share my concerns with the scheduled sweeps of the Community Investment Funds in the Governor's budget. As the daughter of a second generation dairy farmer, and sister to the third generation that hopes to continue the legacy that my grandfather started, I know first-hand how important these funds are to supporting their success. The Dairy Sustainability Program has had a positive impact on communities around our state by decreasing the impact that milk price volatility has on our dairy farms; helping dairy farmers to stay in business, and in turn supporting jobs and our State's economy.

Beyond my family connections, and personal aspiration to continue farming in Connecticut myself, as a consumer and Connecticut resident, maintaining open space and supporting Connecticut's farming community is of vital importance. After living in New York City for several years, I came back to Connecticut because of this community, and I ask for your continued support and protection of the Community Investment Act funds.

Thank you,
Emily Freund